

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 719 - HB 1140

March 23, 2023

SUMMARY OF BILL: Creates an evidentiary privilege for communications between human trafficking victims and employees or volunteers with an anti-human trafficking organization. Encourages each District Attorney General to adopt a pro-prosecution policy for human trafficking offenses. Establishes that a child is entitled to a guardian ad litem, at no cost to the child or the child's parents, for any delinquency, unruly, or dependency and neglect proceeding following a determination by the court that the child may be the victim of a human trafficking offense.

Beginning January 1, 2024, requires all nurses to complete a minimum of two hours of continuing education on human trafficking prior to renewal of the nurses' licensure registrations. Requires continuing education include data and information on the types of human trafficking; factors that place a person at greater risk of being a victim of human trafficking; public and private social services available for rescue, food, clothing, and shelter referrals; validated assessment tools for identifying a human trafficking victim and general indicators that a person may be a victim of human trafficking; procedures for sharing information related to human trafficking with a patient; and referral options for legal and social services.

Requires the Board of Nursing (BON) include a place to provide information on completion of continuing education on the application for renewal of licensure registration. Prohibits the BON from issuing a renewal of licensure registration if the applicant has not completed the continuing education required by the proposed legislation.

FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Based on information provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), a child entitled to a guardian ad litem following determination by the court that the child may be the victim of a human trafficking offense, would be paid for by the Indigent Defense Fund.
- Any increase in payments to the Indigent Defense Fund as result of the proposed legislation is estimated to be not significant and can be absorbed within existing Fund resources.

SB 719 - HB 1140

- Based on information provided by the District Attorney General's Conference (DAGC), any impact to the DAGC as a result of the proposed legislation can be accommodated within existing resources and personnel.
- Requiring nurses to complete a minimum of two hours of continuing education on human trafficking prior to renewal of the nurses' licensure registrations will not have a significant impact on the number of licensed nurses in the state.
- Any necessary rule changes can be accommodated within the Board of Nursing's regularly-scheduled meetings at no additional cost. The Board of Nursing will ensure compliance with the requirements of this legislation utilizing existing resources without a significant increase on board expenditures.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-29-121, all health-related boards are required to be self-supporting over a two-year period. The Board of Nursing had a surplus of \$375,321 in FY20-21, a surplus of \$28,720 in FY21-22, and a cumulative reserve balance of \$8,523,762 on June 30, 2022.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/vh